



Montgomery County Council

For Immediate Release

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\$150,000 responds to January bicyclist's death at hands of speeder...

COUNCIL GIVES "GREEN LIGHT" TO IMPROVED SAFETY MEASURES FOR SLIGO CREEK PARKWAY

The Montgomery County Council today unanimously approved \$150,000 for speed management and safety measures for Sligo Creek Parkway, where, in January, a bicyclist was killed by a speeding motorist. The plan includes the installation of speed humps on park roads for the first time.

"Park roads are primarily intended for park use," said Councilmember Derick Berlage, who chairs the Council's Planning, Housing, and Economic Development Committee. "When other motorists use these roads, they have to understand that a 25-mile-an-hour speed limit in our parks is a 'hard' limit. It doesn't mean 35. It doesn't mean 45. When people speed in our parks, park users, including children and seniors, are at risk."

The plan includes a series of signs and pavement markings, raised pedestrian crosswalks and 22-inch-wide speed humps, and speed enforcement equipment that will be used to control speeds along the full length of the parkway. Sligo Creek Parkway is a two-lane roadway, running five miles from New Hampshire Avenue on the east to University Boulevard on the west.

"Sligo Creek Park is a valuable recreational resource enjoyed by hikers, bikers, kids, seniors, dog-walkers, and others," said Council President Steve Silverman. "Folks who use the park shouldn't have to worry about speeding automobiles. I'm not a big fan of speed humps, but we can't count on signage and Park Police vigilance alone to deter motorists from racing through our parks."

Construction on the first phase of the project will begin in May and is due to be completed in the summer.

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